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EXTENT OF 1949 FLOOD DISASTER IN CHINA

Sheng-ch'an Chiu-tsai (Production
for Disaster Relief)
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Flood Disasters in China in 1949

Constant rains in the summer and fall of 1949, heavier than for more than 10 years, caused the serious floods in China. Especially severe coastal typhoons added to the disaster. The Yellow River current was stronger than in any previous year. Such conditions naturally produced floods whose severity is shown by the following statistics on the acreage affected.

	<u>No of Mou</u>
East China	50,000,000 (20 percent of all arable land)
North China	47,200,000
Central-South China	22,660,000
Northwest (Shensi)	600,000
Northeast	3,459,400

Breakdown by Provinces

	<u>No of Mou</u>
East China	
North Anhwei	17,890,000
North Kiangsu	17,760,000
Shantung	12,480,000
North China	
Hopeh	29,300,000
P'ing-yuan	7,000,000
Central-South China	
Honan	10,000,000
Hupeh	3,400,000
Kiangsi	6,100,000
Northeast	
Shansi	3,459,400
Northwest	
Shensi	600,000

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Crop Production Loss

The loss in grain production of all China was 12 billion shih-chin (one shih-chin equals one-half kilogram). In East China alone the loss in grain production amounted to 7 billion catties. No crop at all was produced from 20 million mou of land.

In the Kwan-chung area of Shensi the grain production was only 30 percent of the usual amount, and the cotton crop only 50 percent of normal.

Hopeh Province Floods

Five Special Administrative Districts of Hopeh Province were especially hard hit by the floods. They were Tientsin, T'ang Hsien, T'ung Hsien, T'angshan, and Paoing.

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